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REFERENCES: BX
BS

ATTACHMENT TO L-3729
27 JULY 1967
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PHUC THANG MILITARY CAMP
NORTH VIETNAM
2119N 10558E

(SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARD L-3163)

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS A NEWLY-IDENTIFIED MILITARY CAMP, WHICH IS LOCATED NEAR THE FIRST POSSIBLE MISSILE-ASSOCIATED BULK PROPELLANT STORAGE FACILITY IDENTIFIED IN NORTH VIETNAM.

2. LOCATION:

THE CAMP IS LOCATED 1.1 NM WEST OF PHUC THANG AT 21-19-20N 105-58-20E (UTM XJ008581).

3. BACKGROUND:

THE POSSIBLE MISSILE-ASSOCIATED BULK PROPELLANT STORAGE FACILITY INCLUDES THREE VHF COMMUNICATION ANTENNAS (PROBABLY MERCURY GRASS) WHICH ARE ORIENTED TOWARD THE PHUC YEN RADAR SITE [REDACTED] PHUC YEN AIRFIELD [REDACTED] AND THE AIRCRAFT PARKING AREA NORTH OF THE AIRFIELD. NINE SA-2 MISSILE SITES ARE LOCATED WITHIN TEN NM OF THE FACILITY.

4. COLLATERAL:

THE TRACKED AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER BTR-50P WHICH IS DEPICTED ON THIS GRAPHIC WAS SEEN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NORTH VIETNAM IN [REDACTED] IT IS THE ONLY TRACKED APC CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE SOVIET BLOC. THROUGH THE USE OF TWO HYDROJECTS THIS SERIES OF VEHICLES ARE CAPABLE OF WATER SPEEDS OF FROM FIVE TO SEVEN MPH.

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EACH HYDROJET TUBE IS FITTED WITH A TURBINE DRIVEN FROM THE VEHICLE ENGINE SO THAT WATER IS EXPELLED THROUGH THE HULL-PLATE OPENINGS IN THE REAR. STEERING IN THE WATER IS ACCOMPLISHED BY THE USE OF VENTS, ONE ON EACH SIDE OF THE HULL SIDEWALL, NEAR THE REAR. THE BTR-50P HAS A LAND SPEED OF APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-SEVEN MPH AND A CRUISING RANGE OF ABOUT 160 MILES. IT CARRIES A CREW OF TWO AND UP TO TWELVE FULLY EQUIPPED PASSENGERS, ALTHOUGH IT IS CHIEFLY USED BY ENGINEER UNITS AND AS A SPECIAL AMPHIBIOUS CARRIER. ITS NORMAL ARMAMENT IS A 7.62MM MACHINEGUN, BUT IT IS FREQUENTLY UNARMED.

5. MISSION READOUT:

BLUE SPRINGS [REDACTED] REVEALS A MILITARY CAMP CONTAINING NUMEROUS THATCHED ROOF, WOODEN FRAME BUILDINGS PROBABLY USED TO HOUSE MILITARY PERSONNEL. ALSO OBSERVED ARE FIVE COVERED VEHICLE REVETMENTS (ONE CONTAINING AN UNIDENTIFIED VEHICLE) AND FOUR OPEN VEHICLE REVETMENTS, TWO OF WHICH CONTAIN CAMOUFLAGED POSSIBLE BTR-50P TRACKED AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, AND ONE OF WHICH CONTAINS AN UNIDENTIFIED VEHICLE. A COVERED STORAGE REVETMENT AND FOUR OPEN STORAGE REVETMENTS CONTAINING POSSIBLE POL DRUMS ARE ALSO NOTED.

HEAVY TRENCHING IS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT THE AREA AND SEVERAL UNOCCUPIED AW POSITIONS ARE NOTED. A CABLE SCAR EXTENDS EASTWARD FROM THE CAMP TO A VACANT CIRCULAR REVETMENT LOCATED IN A SMALL VILLAGE AT UTM XJ013582.

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BX [REDACTED] REVEALS THE GENERAL AREA EMCOMPASSED

BY THE NEWLY-IDENTIFIED PHUC THANG MILITARY CAMP.

THE GROUND PHOTOGRAPH OF THE BTR-50 AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER IS FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION KEY ON SOVIET TACTICAL VEHICLES.¹

4. REMARKS:

THE CONTINUING U.S. AIR STRIKES BEING CONDUCTED AGAINST NORTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY BARRACKS AREAS MAY HAVE RESULTED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF MILITARY CAMPS SUCH AS THE ONE DESCRIBED IN THIS BOARD IN THAT IT DOES NOT CONFORM TO A TYPICAL MILITARY AREA IN ITS CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND CONFIGURATION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS MILITARY CAMP MAY BE SUPPORTING THE POSSIBLE MISSILE-ASSOCIATED BULK PROPELLANT STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED ON THE EDGE OF HUONG DONG AT 2120N 10601E (UTM XJ059599).

BS [REDACTED]

BX [REDACTED]

UTM COORDINATES TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L7014, SHEETS 6151I AND 6251 IV.

¹PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION KEY, SOVIET TACTICAL VEHICLES, TM 30-271, NAVWERS 10-35-656, AFM 200-69, OCTOBER 1961 (SECRET).

COLLATERAL SOURCE:

FOREIGN MATERIAL CATALOGUE (FOMCAT), TB 381-5-1, JANUARY 1967 (CONFIDENTIAL).

IDENTIFICATION HANDBOOK, USAREUR PAM NO. 30-60-1 (UNCLASSIFIED).

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21-19N 105-58E

